REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9-15, 17, and 19-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Applicant's Admission of Prior Art (AAPA) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,802,550 (Fullman). Claims 5, 8, 16, and 18 were deemed to be allowable if rewritten in independent form

The invention, as set forth in independent claims 1 and 12, includes the general feature of an integrated processing unit, bootstrap memory holding a bootstrap program, and an internal system storage structure, where the processing unit executes at least a portion of the bootstrap program using an internal system storage structure for temporary storage without access to external memory.

The Office Action asserts that the combination of Applicants' Background section and Fullman teach these features. The Office Action asserts that Fullman teaches using an internal system storage structure for temporary storage when executing the bootstrap program. To the contrary Fullman uses only the designated parameter memory 54 for storing memory configuration data. The parameter memory 54 of Fullman corresponds to the external memory setup data 29 stored in Applicant's memory interface 35. The only purpose of the parameter memory 54 is to store the memory configuration data. Fullman merely reads the external memory device to access its configuration data and stores that data in the parameter memory 54. Hence, Fullman does not use an internal system storage structure for temporary storage for executing the bootstrap program.

Particularly, the bootstrap program of Fullman is stored in the peripheral memory device 58, which it cannot execute until the variable parameter controller 56 is properly configured. "In operation, particularly the case where the memory device 58 is a ROM, the execution unit is programmed so that on power-up, it may boot from information contained in the ROM." (Col. 7, lines 27-30). Fullman interfaces with the memory device 58 using a default, slow-speed timing protocol to read its configuration data and store it in the parameter memory 54. Fullman then boots the processor 50 using a bootstrap program stored in the memory device 58.

Hence, even if assuming for purposes of argument only, that the parameter memory 54 did meet applicant's feature of an internal system storage structure, Fullman does not use

the parameter memory 54 for temporary storage during execution of the bootstrap without access to external memory. First, the parameter memory 54 is not used by Fullman during the execution of the bootstrap program. The parameter memory 54 is programmed with the memory configuration prior to executing the bootstrap program. Second, Fullman requires access to the memory device 58 to execute the bootstrap program as it contains the bootstrap instructions. Therefore, Fullman fails to teach executing "at least a portion of the bootstrap program using an internal system storage structure for temporary storage without access to external memory." In summary, Fullman accesses the external memory 58 and does not use an internal system storage structure for temporary storage.

For these reasons, claims 1, 12, and all claims depending therefrom, are allowable. Applicants respectfully request the rejection of these claims be withdrawn.

In view of the remarks set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

It is believed that no fee is due as a result of this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees under 37 CFR § 1.17 that may be due on this application to Deposit Account 17-0055. The Commissioner is also authorized to treat this amendment and any future reply in this matter requiring a petition for an extension of time as incorporating a petition for extension of time for the appropriate length of time as provided by 37 CFR § 136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

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